

William Woodburn House
CH-666
Patuxent City
Private

Circa 1858

Despite substantial changes to the original exterior materials, the William Woodburn House retains its original overall form consisting of a three bays and 1-½ stories with full width front and rear shed porches extending from the roofline. The dwelling is significant in relation to a handful of similar structures found in the vicinity of Patuxent City, once a thriving 19th century village on the road between Hughesville and Benedict. Believed to have been constructed in 1858, yet essentially an 18th century house plan, the William Woodburn House reflects the conservatism in architectural innovation in Charles County until after the Civil War.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-666

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic William Woodburn House
other

2. Location

street and number 16005 Prince Frederick Road not for publication
city, town Patuxent City vicinity
county Charles

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Edna M. Jenkins
street and number 16005 Prince Frederick Road telephone Unlisted
city, town Hughesville state MD zip code 20637

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 36 p. 63
city, town LaPlata liber 116 folio 301

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report
☐ Other

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
			Contributing Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> social
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other:
			storage
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-666

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Facing north, the William Woodburn House is a 1 1/2 story, three bay, side gable frame structure, reclad in stucco. According to tax records, the William Woodburn House was constructed in 1858. The house is sited near the road with a massive oak tree standing a short distance from the dwelling's southeast corner. Extensively altered, its 19th century origin is suggested by its overall form including such features as a steeply pitched roof, dormers and full width shed additions on the front and rear elevations. The site is shared by several outbuildings constructed during the last half of the 20th century, including a garage and a large shed. Two trailers are also on the site. Nearby is a mid-19th century tobacco barn, (CH-645), and across the street is the mid 19th century dwelling known as Wentworth (CH-646).

The exterior has been so drastically altered that little can be discerned by visual examination. The wood frame has been covered with stucco and both the front and rear porches have been enclosed. Five existing dormers, three on the front elevation and two on rear, have likely been altered from a pedimented form to the current shed form but may contain some original fenestration. The house has a metal seam roof pierced by a rectangular, possibly original chimney. A later exterior flue is attached to the west gable wall. The first floor east elevation contains the only discernable original feature, a narrow, offset 4/4 light window.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-666

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates	1858	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	Circa 1858		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Despite substantial alterations, this dwelling is significant in relation to a handful of similar structures found in the vicinity of Patuxent City where a cluster of 1-1/2 story frame dwellings, many obscured by later additions and alterations, still stand. Ironically, despite the alteration of exterior materials and details, this dwelling retains its overall original form, whereas renovation of other examples have hidden the original plan inside a Victorian exterior.

The William Woodburn House stands near the 19th century village of Patuxent City and Old Fields Church on the Hughesville-Benedict Road (now Route 231). Although one would not recognize it today, during the 19th century Patuxent City once boasted a store, blacksmith shop, and a number of dwellings located on small lots lining the main road. It appears that the town developed during the early 19th century as one of the several trade centers that grew up at crossroads across the county. Today, only a handful of original buildings remain in Patuxent City. These include Patuxent City House (CH-122), Old Fields Chapel (CH-112), the Herbert House (CH-119), and the Benedict Road House.

This dwelling has a complicated history not easily revealed in available archival records. Local historian John Wearmouth, quoting a nearby resident, believed the dwelling was built c. 1775, while tax records list a later date of 1858. As a house plan common throughout much of the 18th century, such a late construction date reflects the conservatism in architectural innovation in Charles County as is documented in other examples throughout the county.

While the early history of the property is not yet known, between 1865 and 1870 Mary B. Robey acquired the property, which then included the dwelling of William Woodburn on a 40 acre parcel formerly part of Calverton Manor, part of Wilmer's Place and part of Hickey's Place. By 1870, it was described as the residence of Rufus Robey and it remained part of the larger Wentworth tract of 223 acres until the early 20th century. Around the time of the first World War it became the Rectory of Old Fields Church and was occupied by James W. Smith. Smith was probably responsible for much of the 20th century alterations.

Other similar dwellings in the Patuxent City vicinity include the well preserved Patuxent City House (CH-122) with its original 1-1/2 story, 5 bay plan, the Canter Property, CH-631 containing the shell of a 1 1/2 story dwelling under a two story Victorian addition. The dwelling on the Canter Property was recently destroyed by fire, exposing the frame and revealing its earlier history. Other similar examples throughout the county include (Ch-341) Wilkinson-Turner House, constructed during the 1st quarter 19th century, and (CH-32) "Pasquahanza", built in the 2nd quarter 19th century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-666

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 24.72

Acreage of historical setting 40

Quadrangle name Hughesville

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The William Wood House is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 36, Grid 18, Parcel 63.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy Currey/Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Charles County Planning Dept

date 4/18/01

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-396-5815

city or town LaPlata

state MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-666

Section 8 Page 1

William Woodburn House
name of property
Charles County, MD
county and state

Chain of title:

1865-1870	Mary B. Robey acquires property forming Wentworth 211 a. on the public road leading from Hughesville to Patuxent City conveyed to Mary B. Robey A - John H. Ward and wife, November 15, 1865. 1/4 part of a tract called part of Calverton Manor which Mary Hickey dec'd possessed. For \$335.29. Including land and premises. 118 acres. B - George H. Chappelleur, June 23, 1866. 40 acres. Mentions William Woodburn dwelling. In consideration of the premises. C - Charles DeMarr, December 18, 1868. Same as A for \$525 - 118 acres. Formerly assessed in the name of Mary Hickey's heirs generally known as Calverton Manor or Hickey's Place. With improvements... D - William F. Dement, December 13, 1870. Part of Wilbur's Place, and part of Hickey's Place being a part of Calverton Manor adjoining Thomas, Dudley, Canter, Estep and Lyons. 40 acres same as B described as the residence of Rufus Robey.
August 6, 1901	L. Allison Wilmer and Walter J. Mitchell, trustees appointed by decree of the court to Ruby Nicholson. Equity BGS 5:419
October 9, 1903	Ruby M.L. Nicholson and Thomas F. Nicholson, Jr. to Sarah E. Stewart \$1500.00. All those lots tracts, sub-divisions , pieces parcels of land and premises 223 3/4 a. known as Wentworth 14:362
April 25, 1910	Sarah J. E. Stewart and James E. Stewart to Thomas Tolla and Julia Tolla both of Dodge County, Wisconsin \$3,000 Wentworth and Calverton Manor lying immediately on the public road 223 3/4 a. 21:572
December 16, 1912	Thomas Tolla and Magdalen Tolla to Adam Ludwig Albert and Fannie Albert. 30 acres subdivision of Tolla property with buildings and improvements. 25:150
April 9, 1914	Adam Ludwig Albert and Fannie Albert his wife to Samuel G. Smith. \$1000. 30 acres southside of public road buildings and improvements. 27:132
May 28, 1951	Edith I. Smith, widow to Hillary O. Rose and Lela F. Rose his wife 1 st 30 ac. 2 nd contiguous lot acquired by Edith I. Smith from Thomas Tolla in 1920, 37:343. 96:137
March 11, 1955	Lela T. Rose to Wilmer T. Jenkins and Edna M. Jenkins his wife. 30 a. 116:301

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No.CH-666

Section 9 Page 1

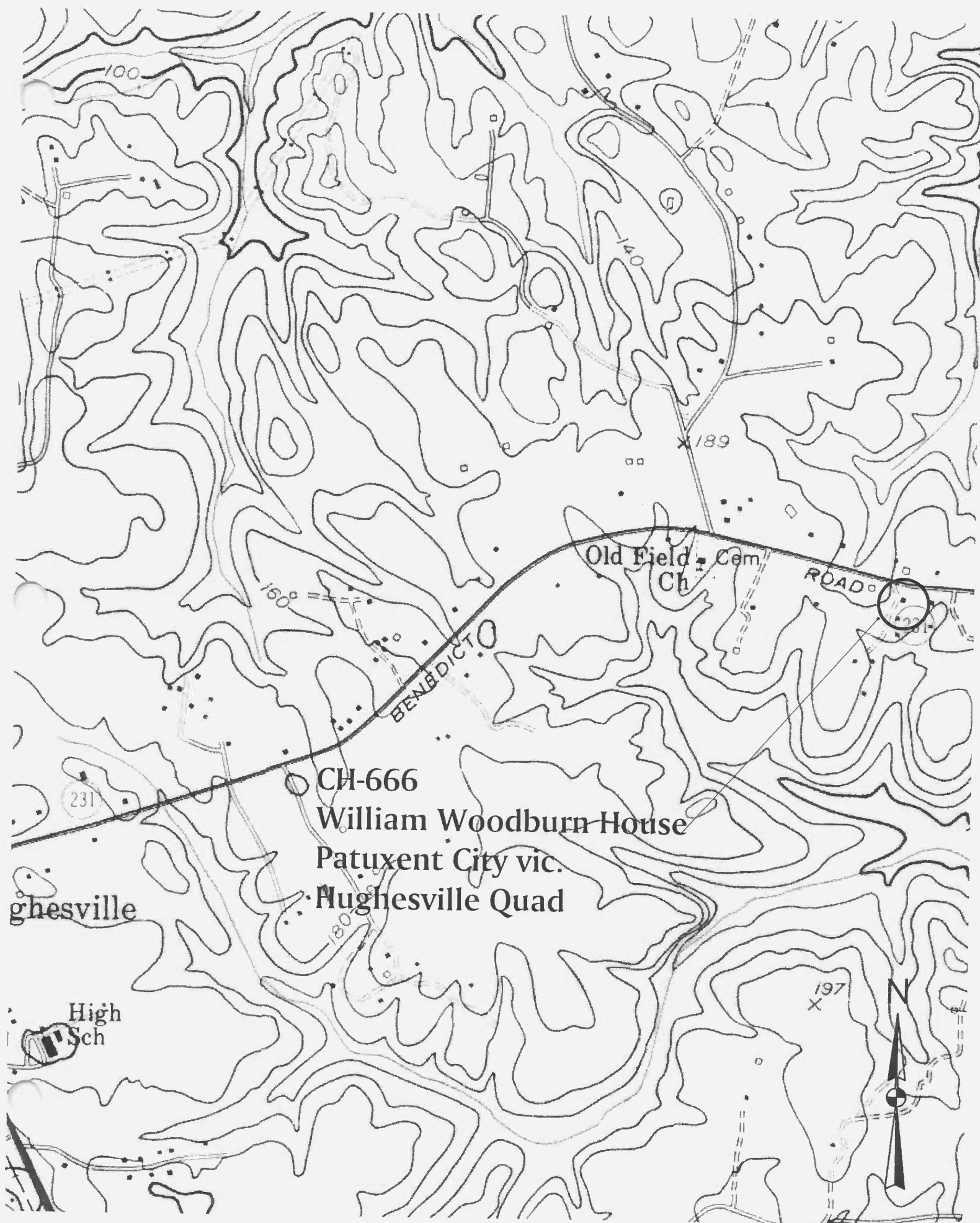
William Woodburn House
name of property
Charles County, Maryland
county and state

Major Bibliographic References:

Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History. Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland. La Plata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.









CH-666
WILLIAM WOOD^B HOUSE
PATUXENT CITY

1/2001

C CURREY

MD SHPO

EAST ELEVATION

3053